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HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR WORK AND CONTRIBUTIONS IN COORDINATING THE MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY 2019: MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS IN HAWAII EVENT TO RAISE AWARENESS AND PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH IN HAWAII.

WHEREAS, mental illness affects nineteen per cent of the adult population, forty-six per cent of teenagers, and thirteen per cent of children annually; each year, approximately fortyfour million American adults will experience a serious mental health condition; and

WHEREAS, virtually every family in America is affected in some way by mental illness - in fact, one in five people in this country has a diagnosable mental health condition; and

WHEREAS, although the general perception of mental illness has improved over the past decades, studies show that only half of those affected receive or will seek treatment because of stigma and discrimination against people with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, this is largely attributed to a lack of education and misinformation that can be overwhelming obstacles for someone who is struggling with a mental illness, which negatively impacts the resources available for proper treatment; and

WHEREAS, SUTTER HEALTH KAHI MOHALA is dedicated to improving the quality of life and restoring hope for individuals and families affected by mental illness, and for over 35 years, it has delivered the highest standards in mental health care for Hawaii's children and adolescents while also serving adults, in partnership with the Hawaii Department of Health; and

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WHEREAS, the 'OHANA COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES Program is a Medicaid program that offers a full scope of behavioral health benefits to adults diagnosed with a serious and persistent mental illness, where every member works with their Behavioral Health Case Manager in the community to coordinate all aspects of their care, including behavioral and physical health care, food and housing assistance, transportation, medication management, and substance abuse treatment to meet their needs and improve their quality of life; and

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WHEREAS, for over 75 years, MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA OF HAWAII has been Hawaii's leading mental health education and advocacy organization, educating and organizing communities to enhance mental wellness for Hawaii's people, and advocating for the needs of people with mental illness, including children, youth, adults, elderly, and their families; and

WHEREAS, the NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS HAWAII is America's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness and their families through support, education, advocacy, and awareness, empowering people to confront the profound injustices of serious mental illness; and

WHEREAS, HAWAII HEALTH AND HARM REDUCTION CENTER works to reduce harm, promote health, create wellness, and fight stigma in Hawaii and the Pacific, while building connections and resilience in our trans and gender-non-conforming community through Kua'ana, its transgender program; and

WHEREAS, PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER provides evidence-based services for youth and families experiencing behavioral issues in the home, school, or community using counseling techniques that work to change and decrease maladaptive behaviors and facilitate success in the family, at school and in the community; it serves over 15,000 Hawaii parents, children, individuals, and families each year with statewide programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Day 2019: Mental Health Matters in Hawaii is an event that highlights mental health as an important public health issue, raising awareness of current prevention and treatment opportunities, the community organizations doing the work, and how elected officials can help to promote mental health in Hawaii; and

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WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Day 2019: Mental Health Matters in Hawaii will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2019, at the Hawaii State Capitol; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that this body hereby recognizes and commends the community organizations for their outstanding work and contributions as members of the Event Planning Committee for Mental Health Awareness Day 2019: Mental Health Matters in Hawaii to raise awareness and promote mental health in Hawaii, applauds their service and commitment to the people of Hawaii, and extends to them its best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

OFFERED BY:

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